

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

MAYOR: Tonita Gurule-Giroñ

COUNCILORS: Vincent Howell
David L. Romero
Barbara A. Casey
David A. Ulibarri, Jr.

ALSO PRESENT: Richard Trujillo – City Manager
Casandra Fresquez – City Clerk
H. Chico Gallegos – City Attorney
Juan Montano – Sergeant At Arms

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gurule-Giroñ called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Councilor Ulibarri, Jr. thanked God for blessings and to help in keeping the City of Las Vegas and Council together and wanted to express his condolences to Dallas as they deal with the recent violent tragedies as well as in many areas of the world.

City Manager Trujillo recommended going into Executive Session.

Councilor Casey recommended moving Executive Session after the Consent Agenda and before Business Item 1 of the meeting in order to accommodate the public.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the agenda with the recommended changes of moving Executive Session after Consent Agenda and before Business Item #1. Councilor Ulibarri, Jr. seconded the motion. Mayor Gurule-Giroñ asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Vincent Howell	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes
Barbara A. Casey	Yes	David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the minutes for March 24th, June 8th, and June 15th, 2016. Councilor Romero seconded the motion. Mayor Gurule-Giroñ asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes	Barbara A. Casey	Yes
Vincent Howell	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS/REPORTS

Mayor Gurule-Giroñ advised there were no appointments or reports at this time.

MAYOR'S RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Gurule-Giroñ advised there were no recognitions or proclamations at this time.

PUBLIC INPUT

George Martinez spoke briefly on the subject of fee amounts for daily and monthly passes and asked for open dialogue regarding the status of the Recreation Department Rehabilitation project.

Mayor Gurule-Giroñ advised that City Manager Trujillo and his staff had been keeping the public informed with announcements on Fridays and have been putting out notices at the Recreation Center although stated that City Manager Trujillo would present more details on the matter.

City Manager Trujillo informed that they were no longer going to set a closing date until the matter of a contractor was established or how the Governing Body would direct to move forward. City Manager Trujillo added that the monthly passes would continue and that they would keep everyone informed with continuing to provide updates on the radio on Friday mornings and announce PSA's on both radio stations.

Perry Montoya expressed his thoughts regarding the lack of communication between the City and the constituents of the community when it came to the subject of the status of the Recreation Department Rehabilitation.

Mayor Gurule-Giroñ thanked Mr. Montoya and the constituents for their commitment and dedication to the Recreation Department and advised that there were other circumstances that had arisen concerning negotiations and advised that City Manager Trujillo would address the issues in more detail.

City Manager Trujillo informed that they were working closely with Recreation Department Director Pamela Marrujo and added that tonight's meeting was another step to define on what direction to take. City Manager Trujillo advised that the project would be delayed due to costs of contractors estimates being higher than the architects and advised that there would be a struggle with funding the project although are working diligently to resolve the issues at hand. City Manager Trujillo added that they have been working with Highlands University regarding workout facilities to accommodate the public.

Discussion continued regarding the current status of the Abe Montoya Recreation Department.

Vanessa Sidransky stated that she agreed that members who utilized the Recreation Center valued and appreciated the service it provided and asked that accurate information be shared after proper and sufficient planning would take place with the goal of safety and to meet the needs of those who utilized it.

Brian Marquez advised he was speaking on behalf of other skate board advocates and expressed concerns regarding the closure of the skate park at the Recreation Center and asked for City involvement in the aid of applying for a grant through the Tony Hawk Foundation to acquire funding for a new skate park.

Lalo Sanchez addressed issues regarding discrepancies on sewer charges and asked the Governing Body to consider changing the City ordinance concerning the charges. Mr. Sanchez also stated he would like to see more community improvements on the west side of town and mentioned there was a safety concern pertaining to a drain guard located in front of the old Ludi's grocery store that needed to be repaired.

Bob Wessely spoke briefly regarding the "Agreement for the Purchase of Sale of a Storage Easement and Bulk Water in Storrie Reservoir" and also the halt of New Mexico Finance Authority fund loan process. Mr. Wessely stated that he hoped the Governing Body was pursuing their obligation in good faith as a part of the terms of the agreement in order to move forward for the City's water storage.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Trujillo advised that there were no reports at this time.

PRESENTATIONS

- Utilities employee Lorraine Garcia and Utilities Department Intern Diego Trujillo presented a promotional video regarding the redevelopment of the Gallinas River Walk Park.
- Engineers, Jennifer Hill and Kelly Baker with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates gave a detailed presentation regarding Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP) for the City of Las Vegas.

Councilor Casey advised that she was thankful and pleased with the information provided and added that she was very concerned about the many properties outside the city limits that utilize septic tanks and the worry of the water eventually being contaminated. Councilor Casey asked City Manager Trujillo to take into consideration to incorporate the extraterritorial zoning areas into the city in order to provide proper sewage and water to property owners and at the same time the City would benefit from property taxes.

Councilor Howell asked if the Source Water Protection Plan was an advisory plan or if it was a plan that was asking the City to take action.

Ms. Kelly Baker informed that the plan was a voluntary program funded by the State with recommendations to be used as a tool for awareness, and added that there was no required action and advised that the City could implement the prepared plan however they wish.

Councilor Howell asked who was responsible for the Storrie Lake gate.

City Manager Trujillo informed that Storrie Lake was responsible for the maintenance of the gate.

Discussion took place regarding statements that would be corrected in the draft form of the Source Water Protection Plan.

FINANCE REPORT

Finance Director Ann Marie Gallegos presented the Finance Report ending June 30, 2016. General Fund revenues came in at one hundred percent and expenditures were eighty five percent.

Mayor Gurule-Giron had a concern regarding the eighty nine percent under the Gross Receipt Tax .75 on the General Fund revenue.

Finance Director Gallegos clarified that more research would be done on the GRT collections (Gross Receipt Tax .75-89%) and advised that the hold harmless was probably part of the issue, and stated that the information would be brought back

to Council for review. Finance Director Gallegos added that the expenditures included infrastructure and additional payroll and would also bring totals for payroll as well.

Finance Director Gallegos reported that Recreation Department revenue was at ninety eight percent and expenditures came in at ninety five percent.

Councilor Howell expressed his thoughts on the concerns from Wellness Center members regarding the condition of the equipment and stated that several members had made suggestions of leasing equipment in order to utilize updated equipment.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that the Enterprise Funds were at ninety seven percent and expenditures came in at eighty eight percent.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Grant application through the department of Justice for the Las Vegas Police Department.
2. Approval to award request for bid #2017-01 for employee uniform-boot/work shoe to Popular Dry Goods.
3. Approval to award request for bid #2017-02 for employee uniform-trouser/coverall to Popular Dry Goods.
4. Approval to award request for bid #2017-03 for employee uniform-shirt-jacket to Popular Dry Goods.
5. Approval to award request for proposals #2016-27 for natural gas proving service to sole proposer Koons Gas Management.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve Consent Agenda as read into the record. Councilor Romero seconded the motion. Mayor Gurule-Giroń asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Vincent Howell Yes

David A. Ulibarri, Jr. Yes

Barbara A. Casey	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes
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City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Casey made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss contracts in excess of \$2,500.00, pursuant to the Open Meetings Act Section H-6 under State Statute 10-15. Councilor Romero seconded the motion. Mayor Gurule-Giroń asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes
Barbara A. Casey	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

Councilor Casey made a motion to exit Executive Session and to reconvene into Regular Session pursuant to Section 10-15 H-6 (Contracts) and added that only contracts were discussed, no other action was taken and no decisions were made. Councilor Romero seconded the motion. Mayor Gurule-Giroń asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes
David L. Romero	Yes	Barbara A. Casey	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Approval/Disapproval to proceed with negotiations with Cross Connection Inc. to complete the Abe Montoya Recreation Center Project.

Recreation Director advised that the City of Las Vegas put out a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Recreation Center Project and received interest from one company. An evaluation committee was developed and reviewed the RFQ. The committee's recommendation is to enter into final negotiations with Cross Connection Inc.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve to proceed with negotiations with Cross Connection Inc. to complete the Abe Montoya Recreation Center Project. Councilor Romero seconded the motion. Mayor Gurule-Giroñ asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Vincent Howell	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes
Barbara A. Casey	Yes	David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

COUNCILORS' REPORTS

Councilor Howell reported that he was shocked and upset when he read the newspaper and found out about the Chamber of Commerce being moved from the train depot and added that he was never personally informed and thought that the suggestion of relocating them to Rodriguez Park was unfounded. Councilor Howell stated that the Chamber of Commerce is a very prominent entity within the community and asked if he could have an update on the issue.

Mayor Gurule-Giroñ stated that she had the same concerns regarding the location of Rodriguez Park and advised that City Manager Trujillo had met with Travis Regensburg to discuss the re-location of the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Gurule-Giroñ explained that several locations were considered but advised that after speaking with Mack Crow about allowing the use of his property on Grand Avenue, there were hopes of housing the Chamber of Commerce there, where she thought the location would be ideal.

Discussion took place regarding the process of the re- location of the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilor Howell asked for clarification of the reason for moving the Chamber of Commerce from the train depot.

City Manager Trujillo advised that moving the Chamber of Commerce to Rodriguez Park was only a suggestion and informed that a letter was sent informing them to start looking for another location. City Manager Trujillo added

that his reasoning for moving the Chamber of Commerce was to accommodate additional Transportation staff, who were working in limited space.

Councilor Ulibarri, Jr. expressed that he was pleased with the suggestion of utilizing the location on Grand Avenue for the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilor Casey advised that she was extremely upset and did not appreciate the fact that she was not informed about what was going on with the Chamber of Commerce. Councilor Casey stated that she believed it was the City's responsibility to inform all Councilors as elected officials, to what was going on with issues that involve an entity that affects the entire community, the City Council and the community's economic development. Councilor Casey stated that she hoped this would never happen again and that there would be better communication in the future.

Mayor Gurule-Giroñ stated that she agreed with the Council regarding the move of the Chamber of Commerce and also felt there had been a lack of communication between City Manager Trujillo and Council. Mayor Gurule-Giroñ suggested to City Manager Trujillo that in the future if action would take place, which might adversely impact the community, that he would fully inform Council and added that transparency is very important. Mayor Gurule-Giroñ advised that she felt that Rodriguez Park was not the right location for the Chamber of Commerce and apologized to Council for them not being fully informed.

Councilor Howell asked why the Visitors Center was closed on the weekends.

City Manager Trujillo explained that the number of people who stop at the Visitor Center was not justifying an eight hour operation on the weekend and informed that the City owned a building on Bridge Street and advised there were thoughts of moving the Visitor Center there, where tourists had more access.

Mayor Gurule-Giroñ suggested to City Manager Trujillo that in the future, he would inform Mayor and Council through open meetings or Executive Session in order to seek support from the Governing Body on actions that affect the community.

City Manager Trujillo apologized for the lack of communication and informed that a lot of dialogue was left out in the newspaper regarding actions of moving forward to accommodate the Chamber of Commerce. City Manager Trujillo stated that he would notify of all actions in the future.

Councilor Casey stated to City Manager Trujillo that communication could be as easy as sending an e-mail with the information and added that it is important to have as much information as they can, in order to give constituents a legitimate, thoughtful answer when they have questions.

Councilor Howell requested from City Manager Trujillo, an update on the Storrie Project at the next work session.

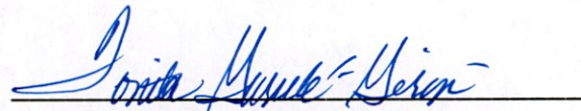
Mayor Gurule-Giroń advised that they would take Councilor Howell's request into consideration.

ADJOURN

Councilor Howell made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Casey seconded the motion. Mayor Gurule-Giroń asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

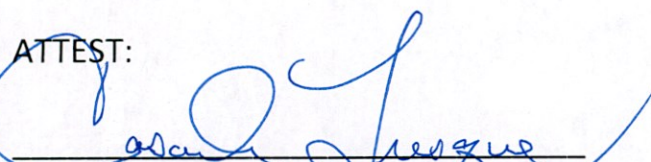
David L. Romero	Yes	Barbara A. Casey	Yes
Vincent Howell	Yes	David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.



Mayor Tonita Gurule-Giroń

ATTEST:



Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk